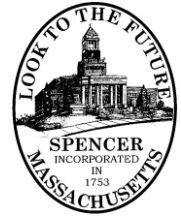


Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen



Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Woodbury, Clerk Stevens, Members Berthiaume & Fritze, Town Administrator Gaudette, Administrative Assistant Torti

At 6:10 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2012 Business Meeting (Woodbury/Berthiaume) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input: none

Communications: Chairman Pepe gave special thanks to the Police and Fire departments for their assistance and participation in the Memorial Day Parade sponsored by the American Legion. Mr. Berthiaume announced the annual Town Hall field day for Selectmen in which the grounds of the Town Hall will be spruced up. The Board decided to meet on June 16th at 8:00 a.m.

New Business:

- a) Action Item: Vote to amend Building Inspector's Contract (MOA) for reduced hours. Mr. Gaudette explained the reasons behind the MOA, noting that while the hours of the Building Inspector were being reduced, the option to increase them, should the need arise, remained open.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the MOU (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

- b) Action Item: Vote to award FY13 Smith Vocational Transportation Contract. Mr. Gaudette explained that this is the annual transportation contract for out of district students and that the contract allows for up to three students to be transported for the same cost.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract for transportation (Woodbury/Stevens) passed 5/0.

- c) Action Item: Vote to award Pleasant St/Lincoln St Water & Road Project. Mr. Gaudette discussed various aspects of the funding for this project and Chapter 90 funding in general.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract (Fritze/Stevens) passed 5/0.

- d) Action Item: Vote to sign CIC Project Consultant Services Contract. Mr. Gaudette briefly summarized the steps leading to this contract which involves 13 towns with Spencer as the Lead community, noting that no Town money will be used, only administrative time by the Town Administrator and the Supt. of Utilities and Facilities. Mr. Gaudette explained the requirements for Stormwater Management as required by the EPA.

A motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract with the CIC consultant , Tata & Howard (Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Old Business:

- a) Action Item: Approve Sibley Conservation Restriction – Charlie Wyman of MA Audubon, presented the paperwork pertaining to the acquisition of the Sibley-Warner property which is scheduled to close on Monday, June 4th. Mr. Wyman answered many of the Board's questions regarding land use requirements and the definition of "agricultural best practices."

A motion to approve the Conservation Restriction (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 4/1 with Mr. Stevens voting no.

A motion to approve the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 5/0.

A motion to approve the co-holder of the property (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 5/0.

A motion to approve the easements as outlined in the agreement (Berthiaume/Woodbury) passed 5/0.

A motion to accept the gift of property from Ahearn's and the restrictions (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 5/0.

- b) Action Item: Waive ANR Fees for MA Audubon/Sibley Project (\$675 to minimum \$75)

A motion to reduce the ANR fee to the minimum fee of \$75.00 (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 5/0.

- c) Discussion Item: Ken Elstein – Hampshire Council of Governments – Electric Aggregation. Mr. Gaudette noted that Town Meeting had given the Board authorization to enter into an agreement with the Hampshire Council of Governments if they deemed it appropriate. Mr. Elstein was present to answer questions from the Board. If accepted, power costs would be guaranteed to be lower than NGrid for the first year of the five year contract. Residents would need to opt out of the program if they did not want it. After considerable discussion, the Board agreed to revisit this topic in the fall and to hold additional public hearings before making a final decision.
- d) Discussion Item: Safety Zones. After a brief discussion, the Board requested that maps with circles of a 500 ft. radius be drawn around schools, daycare facilities, elderly housing, etc. to be reviewed at the June 18th workshop.
- e) Discussion Item: Selectmen Salaries.

A motion to reduce the Board of Selectmen's salaries to \$0.00 beginning July 1, 2012 (Stevens/Fritze) passed 5/0.

Town Administrator's Report: passed over

Board Liaison Reports: passed over

Liaison Assignments: Mr. Pepe passed out a draft liaison assignment listing and asked the Board to contact him if they had questions or concerns regarding their individual assignments.

Citizen Input: Al Atchue of Meadow Road commented on the aggregate purchase of electricity proposed earlier in the meeting and on the safe zone discussed by Board members, noting that there are beaches in California that have a similar restriction.

Board Member and Staff Comments: Mr. Berthiaume reminded those present that graduation for David Prouty students would be in Mechanics Hall for the first time. He also thanked Joe Tetreault and Sons for repairing the

plaster dome in the rotunda. He further noted that Family Fun Day was scheduled for June 30th and that the Zukas Family had graciously allowed for the use of their property for launching the fireworks. Mr. Berthiaume noted that fundraising for the event was underway and that approximately 50% of the total funds needed were in hand. Mr. Berthiaume reminded everyone that the event is free to the public, with donations accepted at the gate.

Mr. Pepe asked that a Blue Ribbon Committee be formed to look at opportunities for economic development.

A motion to adjourn (Berthiaume/Fritze) passed 5/0. The meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Torti
Administrative Assistant

_____ Chairman

_____ Vice Chairman

_____ Clerk

_____ Member

_____ Member

_____ Date